

- (2) Recommending legislation needed to improve the ability of State departments and agencies to protect the safety and defense of the State's food supply and the agricultural industry base, including legislation to protect sensitive and proprietary information of the State's food supply system, safety and defense vulnerability information, and defense plans, that, if compromised, would heighten the exposure of the State's food supply system to criminal or terrorist acts.
- (3) Recommending budget, staffing, and resource adjustments necessary to improve the capability of State departments and agencies to protect the safety and defense of the State's food supply system and agricultural industrial base.

Section 5. Reporting.

The Food Safety and Defense Task Force shall prepare an annual report no later than the 15th of December each year. This report shall include any recommendations, including proposed legislation, for changes in laws, rules, and programs that the Task Force determines to be appropriate to enhance food safety and defense in the State.

Section 6. Funding.

The Office of State Budget and Management shall assist the Task Force in its efforts to obtain State and Federal funding necessary to carry out its duties.

Section 7. Other Executive Orders

All other executive orders or portions of executive orders inconsistent herewith are hereby rescinded. This order specifically replaces Executive Order No. 52 dated September 12, 2003.

The executive order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded.

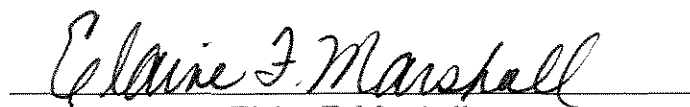
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh, this the 12th day of September 2005.





Michael F. Easley
Governor

ATTEST:



Elaine F. Marshall
Secretary of State